GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2932
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2002
W.T.O. CONFERENCE
SURESH KURUP;VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 5th Ministerial Conference of WTO is proposed to be held at Cancun inMexico in 2003 in order to revise the Marrakesh Agreement;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers in orderto get the State`s views on the modification needed in the agreement;

(c) if so, the details thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): The 5th Ministerial Conference of WTO is proposed to be held at Cancun in Mexico in2003 to take stock of progress in the negotiations, provide any necessary political guidance and take decisions as required. The aim of the negotiations is to maintain the process of liberalization of trade policies and to ensure that the multilateral trading system established by the Marrakesh Agreement plays its full part in promoting recovery, growth and development.

(b)to(d): The consultations with all the stakeholders including the State Governments is an ongoing process and the government is engaged in it on a continuing basis.